

## NOVEL GROWTH FACTOR OPA1 AND USES THEREOF

### Abstract of the Invention

The present invention discloses nucleic acids encoding a novel growth factor Opa1, which promotes the regeneration of nervous tissue. Also disclosed are  
5 nucleic acids that hybridize to the complementary sequences of nucleic acids encoding Opa1, and vectors comprising said nucleic acids. In addition, the present invention also provides a purified Opa1 protein and methods of using the same.